

Remarks

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Thus, all of the non-elected claims, i.e. claims 11-23, 59-79 and 104, have been cancelled, leaving only the allowed claims (claims 1, 3-10 and 121-123) remaining in the application.

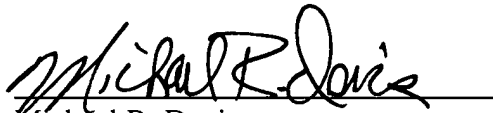
Applicants emphasize that cancellation of the non-elected claims is without prejudice to their rights under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file a divisional application for the subject matter of these claims.

The application is now considered to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Seiji NONAKA et al.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Davis", written over a horizontal line.

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